



**Gerald Austin McHugh**  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT JUDGE

April 12, 2023

Mr. Richard Jefferson  
AH-9348  
SCI-PHOENIX  
1200 Mokychie Drive  
Collegeville, PA 19426

RE: JEFFERSON v. LUQUIS et al  
United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania  
Civil Action No. 22-2374

Dear Mr. Jefferson:

My Chambers has received your memorandum dated April 2, 2023, seeking a transcript of the settlement conference recently conducted by the Court. That memorandum also seeks a written order directing the Commonwealth to take certain actions,

As I explained to you at the outset of the conference, settlement discussions are conducted off the record, and parties are not bound by anything said there.

Your memo refers to a "mandate" I imposed on the Commonwealth, but it is not the role of a judge facilitating settlement discussions to issue orders binding either side, and I imposed no such mandate.

Settlement discussions are deemed to be privileged, and Federal Evidence Rule 408 specifically prohibits introduction of any evidence that would reveal the substance of such discussions.

For that reason, your memo will not be docketed. As this litigation progresses, please do not cite anything from the settlement conference as part of your filings in this case.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gerald A. McHugh", is written below the typed name.

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cc: Melissa Medina, Esquire  
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